

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for offering for purchase by a computer earth imagery content of a user-selected desired geospatial area, the earth imagery content being delivered in the form of a photo product, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) receiving earth imagery metadata from a plurality of earth imagery content providers and storing the earth imagery metadata in a plurality of databases;
 - (b) overlaying the earth imagery metadata on a mapping application for display;
 - (c) a user interacting, by a user, over a network channel with the mapping application, the user including locating a geographical area on a computer display via the mapping application, and selecting via an on-line, interactive man-machine interface a desired geospatial area represented by one or more user defined polygons;
 - (d) converting the user-selected geospatial geographical area represented by one or more the user defined polygons to a data string;
 - (e) transmitting the data string over a network channel to a fulfillment provider; and
 - (f) generating by the fulfillment provider generating a photo product of the desired geospatial geographical area in a format selected by the user;
wherein interacting via the on-line, interactive man-machine interface includes
 - (i) viewing, by the user, geographic data on the computer display, including a map,
 - (ii) locating, by the user, a spatial location on the map, and
 - (iii) dynamically selecting, by the user, a geographical area, including the spatial location, enclosed by a user defined polygon, providing substantially limitless size and shape variability.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the data string includes a name specified by the user.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the data string further includes an earth imagery content provider code.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

one or more polygons are identified by polygon points in the form of longitude and latitude coordinates.

5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

one or more polygons is communicated by digital file containing user's desired area.

6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the channel is the internet.

7. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the channel is a local server with direct remote access capability.

8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the data string further includes a year in which the earth imagery content provider acquired the earth imagery content.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 wherein:

the data string further includes a year in which the earth imagery content provider acquired the earth imagery content.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 wherein:

the data string further includes geospatial position of earth imagery content.

11. (Original) A method as recited in claim 10 wherein:

the data string further includes a year in which the earth imagery content provider acquired the earth imagery content.

12. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

- (a) determining if the user selected earth imagery content is available through the on-line, interactive man-machine interface;
- (b) requesting a bid from at least one earth imagery content provider to obtain the user selected earth imagery content; and
- (c) communicating the bid to the user.

13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the photo product is at least one digital image.

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the photo product is at least one printed image.

15. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

delivering the photo product to the user in the format selected by the user.

16. (Original) A method as recited in claim 13 wherein:

at least one digital image is delivered to the user on a computer readable storage medium.

17. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

offering the user a choice of photo products.

18. (Original) A method as recited in claim 17 wherein:

the choice of products presented to user varies with the desired geospatial area selected.

19. (Original) A method as recited in claim 17 wherein:

the choice of photo products presented to the user varies with the geospatial area and/or format selected.

20. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 17 wherein:

a price and a delivery time of the photo product and a location of the fulfillment provider are dependent on the desired geospatial area and format selected, and

the price is automatically determined by a computer of the fulfillment provider, in response to the dynamically selected polygons on the display of the user, and transmitted by the fulfillment provider, by way of the network channel, for display on the display of the user.

21. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

allowing the user to share a view of the desired geospatial area for earth imagery content selected with another party over the channel.

22. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

allowing the user to select stereo and mono coverage.

23. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

allowing the user to purchase planned imagery.

24. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the on-line, interactive man-machine interface enables viewing of referenced selection and metadata throughout decision process.

25. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

capturing unique ID's relating to the desired geospatial area selected by the user from a back-end system access.

26. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the user selects from earth imagery content available differentiated by year, color vs B&W, resolution, scale or precision processed form.

27. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:
delivering the photo product to the user.

28. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the channel is an intranet site located on a local server with periodic updates.

29. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:
offering to allow payment for the product via the channel.

30. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of:
generating the photo product of the desired geospatial area for earth imagery content
using the fulfillment data string combined with the fulfillment metadata of the earth imagery
content selected.

31. (Original) A method as recited in claim 27 further comprising the step of:
the delivering step is performed by mail, e-mail of digital file, FTP of digital file, on-line
view, on-line download, or on-line use of digital file within desktop applications.

32. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:
the user defines the format of the photo product with respect to a level of processing, a
geographical projection, a software reading format, and a delivery means.

33. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:
the photo product is defined by a geographical projection selected.

34. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:
the photo product is defined by a software reading format selected.

35. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:
the photo product is defined by a delivery means selected.

36. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the data string is transmitted as an http request, sent by FTP.

37. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the data string automatically populates a database via an html form interface.

38. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the content providers control quality and accuracy of the display of earth imagery content over the channel through on-line upload and verification of the earth imagery content.

39. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein:

the desired geospatial area represented by one or more user defined polygons is substantially infinitely variable as to a location, a size and a shape thereof.

40. (Original) A computer storage medium having instructions stored thereon for causing a computer to perform the method of claim 1.

41. (Original) A computer program product comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having a computer program stored thereon for performing the method steps of claim 1.

42. (Currently Amended) A computer method for offering for purchase user-selected earth imagery content of a desired geospatial area in the form of a photo product comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving, by a computer, earth imagery metadata from a plurality of earth imagery content providers;

(b) overlaying the earth imagery metadata on a mapping application, the earth imagery metadata provided by a service provider;

(c) a user communicating, by a user, over a network channel with the service provider, the user locating a geographical area via the mapping application and dynamically selecting via

an on-line, interactive man-machine interface a desired geospatial area represented by one or more user defined polygons;

(d) converting the user-selected geospatial area represented by one or more polygons to a data string ;

(e) transmitting the data string over a network channel to a computer of the fulfillment provider; and

(f) the fulfillment provider generating a photo product of the desired geospatial area in a format selected by the user, based on the user defined polygons dynamically selected on a computer display of the user.

43. (New) The computer method of claim 42 including the steps of:

(g) determining in the computer of the fulfillment provider, a price for the geospatial area, in response to the polygons selected by the user on the display of the user, and

(h) transmitting, from the fulfillment provider, by way of the network channel, the price for viewing on the display of the user, free-of any human intervention at a location of the fulfillment provider.